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10/524,616	02/16/2005	Kazuya Hasegawa	MAT-8653US	1553

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EXAMINER

RAABE, CHRISTOPHER M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2879

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/18/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Art Unit: 2879

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's submission, filed January 16, 2007, have been entered and acknowledged by the examiner.
2. Applicant's arguments filed January 16, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Carretti et al. (USPN 2002/008469).

With regard to claim 1,

Carretti et al. disclose a plasma display panel comprising; a plurality of members, one of said members having an exhaust hole for evacuating a chamber formed by said members (paragraph 6, and fig 3a), and, a non-evaporating getter disposed inside the plasma display panel adjacent the exhaust hole (paragraph 9 and 41 of fig 3a).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 2,3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carretti et al., in view of Wallace et al. (USPN 5614785).

With regard to claim 2,

Carretti et al. disclose the plasma display panel of claim 1.

Carretti et al. do not disclose the use of zeolite.

Wallace et al. do disclose the use of zeolite as a non-evaporative getter in a display panel (column 5, lines 5-15), providing an effective, economical getter material.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the material of Wallace et al. into the device of Carretti et al. in order to provide an effective, economical getter material.

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With regard to claim 3,

Carretti et al. disclose a plasma display panel comprising a plurality of members, one of said members having an exhaust hole for evacuating a chamber formed by said members (paragraph 6, and 31,32, 33 of figs 3a,b), and a non-evaporating getter disposed inside the plasma display panel near the exhaust hole (paragraphs 6,31).

Carretti et al. do not disclose the getter material to be selected from the group consisting of ion-exchange zeolite, lithium ion-exchange mordenite, sodium ion-exchange mordenite, calcium ion-exchange faujasite and clinoptilolite.

Wallace et al. do disclose the use of one of ion-exchange zeolite, lithium ion-exchange mordenite, sodium ion-exchange mordenite, calcium ion-exchange faujasite and clinoptilolite as a non-evaporative getter in a display panel (column 5, lines 5-15), providing an effective, economical getter material.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the material of Wallace et al. into the device of Carretti et al. in order to provide an effective, economical getter material.

Response to Arguments

7. While the applicant argues that Carretti et al. do not teach the NEG to be adjacent to the exhaust hole, the examiner asserts that this feature is taught by Carretti teaches the exhaust hole to be formed at the edge area (paragraph 6) and the getter to be formed adjacent to the edge area ("side area" of paragraph 31). Hence the getter is formed adjacent to the exhaust hole.

Conclusion

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THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher M. Raabe whose telephone number is 571-272-8434. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f 7am-3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on 571-272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Ashok
Ashok PATEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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